**Expenditure on education**

1439. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what was the percentage of expenditure of the total Gross Domestic Product on education in the "country during 1990-91 and how it compares with those during the years 1970-71 and 1980-81 ; and

(b) what was the per capita expenditure on education in these years for Kerala and Bihar, separately ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) Expenditure of Education Departments of Centre and State Governments as percentage of total Gross Domestic Product is as under:—

| Year | Expenditure as Percentage of GDP |
|---|---|
| 1990-91 (B.E.) . . . | 3.45 |
| 1980-81 . . . . | 2.75 |
| 1970-71 . . . . | 2.25 |

(b) Per capita budgetted expenditure on education for the three years for Kerala and Bihar is as under :—

(in Rupees)

| State | Per Capita Expenditure | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 1990-91 (B.E.) | 1980-81 | 1970-71 |
| Kerala . | 235.46 | 82.74 | 28.21 |
| Bihar . | 138.18 | 29.35 | 8.60 |

**Semester system at plus two level**

1440. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Council of Lducational Research Training (NCERT) propose to introduce semester system at 10+ 2 level of secondary education ;

(b) if so, the details of the proposed system and the experimentation conducted in this regard ; and

(.c) the steps taken and being taken to enforce the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) to (c) The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) is a resource institution which gives advice to the Government in formulation and implementation of national policies and programmes in school educa-tion. The National Policy on Education, 1986 stipulated that one of the components of examination reform would be the in-I reduction of the semester system from the Secondary stage in a phased manner. The draft Curricular Framework for Higher Secondary Education prepared by the 'NCERT in July, 1988 also recommends the semester system.

The National Conference organised by the NCERT on 9-10th March, 1992 with representatives of various Boards of Secondary/Higher Secondary Education and other experts recommended introduction of semester system at hte Higher Secondary stage ( + 2 level) after wide-ranging discussions with the concerned State Boards of Secondary/Higher Seconds TV Education. A nationally agreed pattern of semester system to be considered for introduction at the Higher Secondary stage by the Government would depend on the outcome of these discussions.

**Stone Artifacts near the Periphery of Babri Masjid**

1441. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Statesman of 11th March,